

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 2, 10, 12, 14, 18-26 and 34-69 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

Please amend Claims 1, 9, 11, 13, 15, 16, 26, 27 and 29-32 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An image sensing apparatus comprising:
 - an image sensing device having an image sensing area which is divided into a plurality of image sensing sections ~~[and generates]~~ each including a plurality of pixels which generate electric signals corresponding to amounts of incident light, and a plurality of output units respectively outputting the electric signals of said plurality of image sensing sections to outside of said image sensing device;
 - a shutter ~~[which can]~~ adapted to open and close an optical path of incoming light to said image sensing device; ~~[and]~~
 - a light source which emits light to at least a part of said image sensing area of said image sensing device so that the light is projected onto said plurality of image sensing sections;
 - a controller that controls said shutter to close the optical path and controls said light source to emit light while said shutter closes the optical path; and
 - a correction unit that corrects level differences, owing to characteristic difference of said plurality of output units, between the electric signals from said plurality of image sensing sections with the optical path opened on the basis of electric signals outputted by said plurality of output units with the optical path closed and said light source emitting light.

2. (Canceled)
3. (Withdrawn) The image sensing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a light guide that is installed near said light source and projects luminous flux to said image sensing sections of said image sensing device.
4. (Withdrawn) The image sensing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein a part of said shutter is used as the light guide.
5. (Withdrawn) The image sensing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein a screening member of said shutter is used as a light guide.
6. (Withdrawn) The image sensing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein an optical element arranged between said shutter and said image sensing device is used as a light guide.
7. (Withdrawn) The image sensing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the optical element is a protecting member that protects said image sensing sections of said image sensing device.

8. (Withdrawn) The image sensing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the optical element is a low pass filter.

9. (Currently Amended) The image sensing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a ~~determination~~ setting unit that ~~determines correlation of~~ sets a correction parameter for correcting level difference between the electric signals from said plurality of image sensing sections with the optical path opened on the basis of electric signals outputted by said plurality of output units with the optical path closed.

wherein said correction unit performs the correction of level difference using the correction parameter set by said setting unit.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) The image sensing apparatus according to claim [[10]] 9, ~~further comprising~~ wherein said correction unit has a plurality of processors which respectively process the electric signals output from said plurality of output units of said image sensing device, and perform the correction of level difference using the correction parameter set by said setting unit

~~wherein said determination unit determines correlation between the electric signals in a predetermined image area using outputs from said processors.~~

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) The image sensing apparatus according to claim [[12]] 1, further comprising a combining unit which combines electric signals of the plurality of image sensing sections corrected by said correction unit.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The image sensing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the ~~correlation~~ correction parameter is a ratio between the electric signals.

16. (Currently Amended) The image sensing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the ~~correlation~~ correction parameter is difference between the electric signals.

17. (Withdrawn) The image sensing apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising: a switch that switches whether or not to operate said determination unit; and memory which stores determined correlation when said determination unit is operated.

18-25 (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) A control method for an image sensing apparatus that comprises an image sensing device having an image sensing area which is divided into a plurality of image sensing sections ~~and generates~~ each including a plurality of pixels which generate electric signals corresponding to amounts of incident light and a plurality of output units

respectively outputting the electric signals of said plurality of image sensing sections to outside of said image sensing device, a shutter ~~which can~~ adapted to open and close an optical path of incoming light to said image sensing device, and a light source which emits light to at least a part of said image sensing area of said image sensing device so that the light is projected onto said plurality of image sensing sections, comprising:

a screening closing step of screening closing an optical path of incoming light by the shutter;

a light emitting step of emitting light by the light source with the optical path screened closed; and

a determining correction step of ~~determining correlation~~ correcting level difference, owing to characteristic difference of said plurality of output units, between electric signals that are obtained ~~by emitting light in said light emitting step and are~~ from said plurality of image sensing sections with the optical path opened on the basis of electric signals outputted by the plurality of output units with the optical path closed and said light source emitting light.

27. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~[[26]]~~ 30, further comprising wherein said correction step includes a processing step of separately processing the electric signals output from the plurality of output units of said image sensing device,

wherein, in said ~~determination~~ processing step, ~~correlation~~ the correction of level difference between the electric signals ~~in a predetermined image area is determined using outputs obtained in said processing step~~ is performed using the correction parameter set in said setting step.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~[[28]]~~ 26, further comprising a combining step of combining the electric signals of the plurality of image sensing sections that are corrected at the correcting step.

30. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~28, wherein the electric signals are corrected using the correlation]~~ 26, further comprising a setting step of setting a correction parameter for correcting level difference between the electric signals from said plurality of image sensing sections with the optical path opened on the basis of electric signals outputted by said plurality of output units with the optical path closed,

wherein, in said correction step, the correction of level difference using is performed using the correction parameter set by said setting step.

31. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~[[26]]~~ 30, wherein the ~~correlation~~ correction parameter is a ratio between the electric signals.

32. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~[[26]]~~ 30, wherein the ~~correlation~~ correction parameter is a difference between the electric signals.

33. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 26, further comprising: a switching step of switching whether or not to perform said determination step; and a storing step of storing determined correlation when said determination step is performed.

34-69 (Canceled)